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Notice of Allowability	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	09/682,253	SCHMATZ, MARTIN	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	Agustin Bello	2613	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--
All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

- 1. ☒ This communication is responsive to the interview conducted on 7/21/06 and the proposed amendment discussed.
- 2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1,3-15 and 17-22.
- 3. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 - 1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 - 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.
THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

- 4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
- 5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.

Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 5. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 2. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 6. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date _____. |
| 3. <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date _____ | 7. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Amendment/Comment |
| 4. <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit
of Biological Material | 8. <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance |
| | 9. <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____. |

[Handwritten signature: A. Bello]
AGUSTIN BELLO
PRIMARY EXAMINER

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

1. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Frank V. DeRosa on 7/21/06.

The application has been amended as follows: The language of dependent claim 2 has been added to the language of independent claim 1 so that amended claim 1 reads:

An optical detector that electronically aligns to an optical fiber, the optical detector comprising: a photo-detector device comprising an array of photo-sensors, which receives an optical signal output from an end of an optical fiber; and a controller operatively connected to the photo-detector device, to generate a detection signal by processing photo-sensor signals output from one or more photo-sensors in the array that are actuated by said optical signal, while discounting photo-sensors in the array that are not actuated by said optical signal, to thereby electronically align the optical fiber to the photo-detector device, wherein the controller comprises: DC extraction circuitry for extracting a DC components from the photo-sensor signal output from each photo-sensor in the array; AC extraction circuitry for extracting an AC component from the photo-sensor signal output from of each photo-sensor in the array; and multiplier circuitry coupled to the DC extraction circuitry and to the AC extraction circuitry for generating a separate multiplier output based on the AC component and the DC component of the photo-sensor signal output from each photo-sensor in the array.

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Claim 2 will be cancelled by this amendment.

Claim 3 has been amended to depend from claim 1.

Claim 4 has been amended to depend from claim 1.

Claim 8 has been amended to depend from claim 1.

Claim 9 has been amended to depend from claim 1.

Claim 10 has been amended to depend from claim 1.

Claim 12 has been amended to depend from claim 1.

Claim 13 has been amended to depend from claim 1.

The language of dependent claim 16 has been added to the language of independent claim 15 so that amended claim 15 reads:

A method for processing an optical signal, comprising the steps of: locating a photo-detector device having an array of photo-sensors in the path of an optical signal output from an end of an optical fiber; and electronically aligning the photo-detector device to the end of the optical fiber, wherein electronically aligning comprises: processing photo-sensor signals output from one or more photo-sensors in the array that are actuated by the optical signal; generating a detection signal by processing said photo-sensor signals output; and discounting photo-sensors in the array that are not actuated by said optical signal, wherein generating comprises: extracting a DC component from the output of each photo-sensor in the array, extracting an AC component from the output of each photo-sensor in the array, and generating a separate multiplier output via multiplier circuitry based on the AC component and the DC component of the output of each photo-sensor in the array.

Claim 16 will be cancelled by this amendment.

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Claim 17 has been amended to depend from claim 15.

Claim 18 has been amended to depend from claim 15.

Allowable Subject Matter


2. Claims 1, 3-15, 17-22 are allowed in view of this examiner's amendment.

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Agustin Bello whose telephone number is (571) 272-3026. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F 8:30-6:00.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Jason Chan can be reached on (571)272-3022. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).


Agustin Bello
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 2613

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